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" (b) The matter has been referred to the Head of Department concerned and his report is awaited."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May we know what is the request made in the representation? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" The request made was that the particular choultry should be given to them free of cost."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" In view of the fact that the washermen are utilizing this place for generations and practising their profession, and as there are no other suitable places for washing, may I request the Hon. Minister to assign the choultry to the Association for the purpose of washing the clothes of the general public? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" This is a choultry intended for the use of the general public. That being so, I do not know how it could be assigned to a particular community for their own purpose. But still the matter is under examination by the Head of the Department and his report is awaited."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" To what use has the choultry been put so far? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" The matter is under investigation and the report of the Head of the Department is awaited."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" May I know the name by which the community is called—Washerman or Salavaikarar or Dhobi? "

SRI MOHAMAD RAZA KHAN :—" Is the request contained in the resolution for washing the clothes there or for washing away the choultry? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" They want to have the choultry for storing the clothes and for washing."

Fixation of minimum salary for local board employees.

* 18 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries, Labour and Co-operation be pleased to state the minimum salary fixed for local board employees under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" A copy [a] of G.O. No. 1355, Development, dated 29th March 1952, in which the minimum wages for employment under any local authority were fixed is placed on the table of the House."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 75–80 infra.

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that many employees in the lower grades of the Government service are paid less than the wages fixed for local board employees and if so, whether the Government will look into the matter and do unto their employees what they require the local boards to do to their employees? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" This is a question which has special reference to local boards. The hon. Member is asking for information about some other subject. I should like him to put a separate question so that I may be able to answer it."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" May I know, Sir, why in local boards wages are not being paid according to the Government Order laid on the table of the House in respect of Higher Grade Teachers, Grade III? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" So far as my information goes the Committee that was appointed looked into the question from all aspects and fixed the salary of all categories coming under Grade III at Rs. 40 a month. If the hon. Member points out any particular variation from this, I shall look into the matter."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" May I submit to the Hon. Minister that the teachers in the district boards and municipalities are not paid the salary of Rs. 40 fixed in the Government Order but only paid Rs. 30."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I shall look into the matter, Sir."

Alleged deficit in the Central Co-operative Stores, Arni Branch, North Arcot.

* 19 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM (on behalf of Dr. C. Nathamuni Naidu) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries, Labour and Co-operation be pleased to state whether there was any deficit in cash balance at the time of inspection of the Arni Branch of the Central Co-operative Stores, North Arcot, in July 1953 by the Departmental head; if so, how much, and the action taken against the person responsible for it?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" A deficit of Rs. 1,900 was noticed in the cash balance of the Arni Branch of the Central Co-operative Stores, North Arcot, when the Secretary of the Stores and the Deputy Registrar visited the Stores on 20th April 1953. The Manager of the branch Sri M. Venkatesan was removed from service by the Stores with effect from 1st May 1953."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" Was the money recovered? "